

## Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

Liner, E.A. 1998. *Pseudoeurycea scandens*.

*Pseudoeurycea scandens* Walker

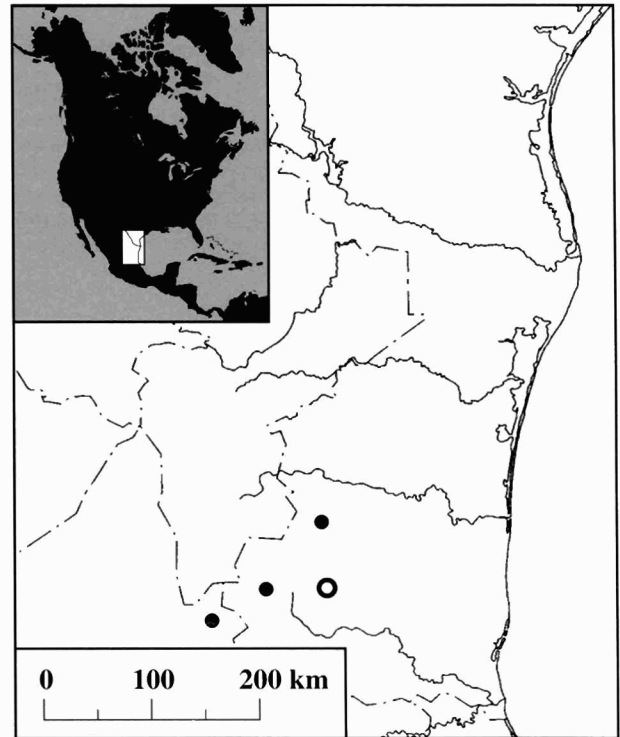
*Pseudoeurycea scandens* Walker 1955:1 + 1 pl. Type locality, "walls of a cave at 'Rancho del Cielo,' on the forested slopes of the Sierra Madre Oriental in southern Tamaulipas, about five miles [8 km] NW Gómez Fariás; altitude about 3500 feet [1067 m]." Holotype, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology (UMMZ) 100639, adult male, collected 17 March 1949 by P.S. Martin, C.R. Robins, and W.B. Heard (not seen by author). Paratypes, UMMZ 98968–70, 100638, 100640–59, 105301–2, all from "Rancho del Cielo" except 100647 and 100650, which are from mountain west of Rancho del Cielo, elevation about 4000 ft (1219 m).

*Pseudoeurycea scandans*: Johnson et al. 1978:21. Typographical error.

• **Content.** No subspecies are recognized.

• **Definition.** According to Walker (1955), *Pseudoeurycea scandens* is a moderately sized member of the genus *Pseudoeurycea*. Adult male SVL ranges from 49–71 mm; but one paratype with SVL of 29 mm agrees with adults in color and pattern. Costal grooves number 13, including indistinct axillary and inguinal grooves. Toes of adpressed limbs touch or overlap, but are never separated by more than one intercostal fold. Toes are webbed at the base, flattened beyond the web, and have approximately parallel sides and truncate tips. Fifteen presacral vertebrae are present, although Wake (1966) indicated that the genus is characterized by having only 14 trunk vertebrae. Vomerine tooth rows are long, teeth number no fewer than 16, usually 18 per row, but reaching 26. No septomaxillary bones are present. A well-marked sublingual fold is present. Ground color is black, with a lateral or dorsolateral pattern of irregular grayish-white blotches. The venter is black and usually immaculate. Much more detail is included in Walker (1955).

• **Diagnosis.** From its closest cogeners, *Pseudoeurycea scandens* differs from *P. cephalica* by the presence of large white blotches on the sides and tail, a usually uniformly dark venter, larger size, and more numerous vomerine teeth. *Pseudoeurycea*



**Map.** Distribution of *Pseudoeurycea scandens*. The circle marks the type locality, dots indicate other records.

*scandens* differs from *P. galeanae* by having longer legs, more truncate, parallel-sided toes, and more extensive white markings on the body. Also, the former is partially arboreal rather than terrestrial (as is *P. galeanae*).

• **Descriptions.** A complete description is given in Walker (1955). An additional partial description is in Smith et al. (1976). Wake (1966) and Wake and Elias (1983) give the diagnostic characters for the genus and list *P. scandens* within the genus.



**Figure.** *Pseudoeurycea scandens* (EAL 4216), 17.2 mi (27.7 km) NE of Ciudad del Maiz, San Luis Potosí, México.

• **Illustrations.** Line drawings were presented in the type description by Walker (1955). A photograph is in Reddell and Mitchell (1971: fig. 23). Smith et al. (1976) included illustrations of *P. scandens* and mentioned that Figure 22 in Reddell and Mitchell (1971) also is a *P. scandens*, although the caption identified the specimen as *Chiropterotriton multidentata*.

• **Distribution.** *Pseudoeurycea scandens* inhabits cloud forests of the Sierra Madre Oriental of Tamaulipas and San Luis Potosí in México, especially in the Sierra de Guatemala. Cave walls are a favorite haunt, but individuals can be found under objects on the ground or in trees. The range is in region 3 of Wake and Lynch (1976).

• **Fossil record.** None.

• **Pertinent Literature.** Published references are listed by topic: albumin (Maxson and Wake 1981), anatomy (Walker 1955), bionumeric code (Brame et al. 1978), caudivagant locomotion (Smith et al. 1976), checklists (Brame 1957, 1967; Flores-Villela 1993; Flores-Villela and Gerez 1988, 1994; Frost 1985; Harding 1983; Reddell 1991; Reddell and Mitchell 1971), common names (Frank and Ramus 1995, Liner 1994, Sokolov 1988, Zhao et al. 1993), diagnostic characters (Wake and Elias 1983, Walker 1955), distribution (Flores-Villela 1993; Johnson et al. 1978; Martin 1955, 1958; Reddell 1966; Reddell and Mitchell 1971; Smith et al. 1976; Walker 1955; Wake and Lynch 1976), ecology (Martin 1958), faunal associates (Martin 1955, 1958; Walker 1955), habitat (Martin 1955, 1958; Reddell 1966, 1971; Reddell and Mitchell 1971; Walker 1955), literature listings (Smith and Smith 1976, 1993; Smith and Taylor 1966), museum type and paratype listings (Kluge 1983, Marx 1958, Smith et al. 1964), phylogeny (Maxson and Wake 1981, Wake and Lynch 1976), and reproduction (Walker 1955).

• **Etymology.** The specific epithet comes from the Latin *scansus* meaning climb, a reference to the species' climbing ability.

• **Remarks.** Sierra (1994) listed this species as rare and threatened with extinction.

### Literature Cited

- Brame, A. H., Jr. 1957. A list of the world's recent Caudata. Priv. printed. Univ. S. California, Los Angeles.
- . 1967. A list of the world's recent and fossil salamanders. *Herpeton* 2:1–26.
- , Jr. II, R. Hochnadel, H.M. Smith, and R.B. Smith. 1978. Bionumeric codes for amphibians and reptiles of the world. I. Salamanders. *Tran. Kansas Acad. Sci.* 81:43–56.
- Flores-Villela, O. 1993. *Herpetofauna Mexicana. Lista Anotada de las Especies de Anfibios y Reptiles de México, Cambios Taxonómicos Recientes, y Nuevas Especies.* Carnegie Mus. Nat. Hist. Spec. Publ. (17):iv + 73 p.
- and P. Gerez. 1988. *Conservación en México: Síntesis sobre Vertebrados Terrestres, Vegetación y Uso de Suelo.* Inst. Nac. Invest. Recur. Biot. Conserv. Internac., México.
- and —. 1994. *Biodiversidad y Conservación en México: Vertebrados, Vegetación Uso del Suelo.* 2nd ed. Com. Nac. Conoc. Uso Biovers. y Univ. Nac. Auto. México.
- Frank, N. and E. Ramus. 1995. *A complete Guide to Scientific and Common Names of Reptiles and Amphibians of the World.* N.G. Publ. Co., Inc., Pottsville, Pennsylvania.
- Frost, D.R. (ed.). 1985. *Amphibian Species of the World. A Taxonomic and Geographical Reference.* Allen Press and The Assoc. Syst. Coll., Lawrence, Kansas.
- Gorham, S.W. 1983. *Checklist of World Amphibians.* New Brunswick Museum, New Brunswick, Canada.
- Harding, K.A. 1983. *Catalogue of New World Amphibians.* Pergamon Press, Ltd., Oxford, England.
- Johnson, R.M., E.A. Liner, and A.H. Chaney. 1978. Geographic distribution: *Pseudoeurycea scandens*. *Herpetol. Rev.* 9:21.
- Kluge, A.G. 1983. Type specimens of amphibians in the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology. *Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool. Univ. Michigan* (166):ii + 68 p.
- Liner, E.A. 1994. Scientific and common names for amphibians and reptiles of Mexico in English and Spanish. *Nombres científicos y comunes en Inglés y Español de los anfibios y reptiles de México.* SSAR Herpetol. Circ. (23):v + 113 p.
- Marx, H. 1958. *Catalogue of type specimens of reptiles and amphibians in Chicago Natural History Museum.* Fieldiana, Zool. 36:409–496.
- . 1976. Supplementary catalogue of type specimens of reptiles and amphibians in Chicago Natural History Museum. Fieldiana, Zool. 69:33–94.
- Maxson, L.R. and D.B. Wake. 1981. Albumin evolution and its phylogenetic implications in the plethodontid salamander genera *Pseudoeurycea* and *Chiropterotriton*. *Herpetologica* 37: 109–117.
- Reddell, J. 1966. The biology of the caves of Rancho del Cielo. *Assoc. Mex. Cave Stud. Bull.* 2(1):12–15.
- . 1991. A preliminary bibliography of Mexican cave biology with a checklist of published records. *Assoc. Mex. Cave Stud. Bull.* (3):2 + 184 p. + 1 pl.
- and R.W. Mitchell. 1971. A checklist of the cave fauna of Mexico. II. Sierra de Guatemala, Tamaulipas. *Assoc. Mex. Cave Stud. Bull.* (4):181–215.
- Sierra, C.J. (Dir.). 1994. *Diario Oficial de la Federación Órgano del Gobierno Constitucional de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos* 488(10):1–110.
- Smith, H.M., R.L. Holland, and R. Spierling. 1976. Observations on a species of salamander (*Pseudoeurycea*) from Tamaulipas, Mexico. *Bull. Maryland Herpetol. Soc.* 12:33–36.
- , D.A. Langebartel, and K.L. Williams. 1964. Herpetological type-specimens in the University of Illinois Museum of Natural History. *Illinois Biol. Monogr.* 32:vi + 80 p. + 1 table.
- and R.B. Smith. 1976. *Synopsis of the Herpetofauna of Mexico. v. IV. Source Analysis and Index for Mexican Amphibians.* John Johnson, North Bennington, Vermont.
- and R.B. Smith. 1993. *Synopsis of the Herpetofauna of Mexico. v. VII. Bibliographic Addendum IV and Index. Bibliographic Addenda II–IV 1979–1991.* Univ. Press Colorado, Niwot.
- and E.H. Taylor. 1966. *Herpetology of Mexico. Annotated Checklists and Keys to the Amphibians and Reptiles.* A reprint of *Bulletins* 187, 194, and 199 of the U.S. Natl. Mus. with a list of subsequent taxonomic innovations. Eric Lundberg, Ashton, Maryland.
- Sokolov, V.E. (ed.). 1988. *Dictionary of Animal Names in Five Languages. Amphibians and Reptiles.* Russky Yazyk Publ., Moscow.
- Wake, D.B. 1966. Comparative osteology and evolution of the lungless salamanders, Family Plethodontidae. *Mem. S. California Acad. Sci.* 4:1 pl. + 5 + 111 p.
- and P. Elias. 1983. New genera and a new species of Central American salamanders, with a review of the tropical genera (Amphibia, Caudata, Plethodontidae). *Contr. Sci. Nat. Hist. Mus. Los Angeles Co.* (345):1–19.
- and J.F. Lynch. 1976. The distribution, ecology, and evolutionary history of plethodontid salamanders in tropical America. *Nat. Hist. Mus. Los Angeles Co. Sci. Bull.* (25):1–65.
- Walker, C.F. 1955. A new salamander of the genus *Pseudoeurycea* from Tamaulipas. *Occ. Pap. Mus. Zool. Univ. Michigan* (567):1–8 + 1 pl.
- Zhao, E.-M., Y.-M. Jiang, Q.-Y. Huang, S.-Q. Hu, L. Fei, and C.-Y. Ye. 1993. *Latin-Chinese-English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles.* Science Press, Beijing (in Chinese with Latin names and Chinese and English indices).

---

**Ernest A. Liner**, 310 Malibou Blvd., Houma, Louisiana 70364–2598, U.S.A.

Primary editor for this account, Harold A. Dundee.

---

Published 30 January 1998 and Copyright © 1998 by the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.

---